

Application Serial No. 10/645,274
Reply to Office Action of May 18, 2005

PATENT
Docket: CU-3402

REMARKS

In the Office Action, dated May 18, 2005, the Examiner states that Claims 1-9 are pending and Claims 1-9 are rejected. By the present Amendment, Applicant amends the claims.

In the Office Action Summary no acknowledgment is made of the claim for foreign priority. The Applicant has submitted copies of the priority documents. If another copy is needed, please inform the undersigned attorney.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-3 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Musall (US 2,349,983). Dependent Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Musall in view of McPhee (US 5,363,619). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with and traverses these rejections.

The claims have been amended to revise the grammar and format of the claims. The claims have not been amended for any reason relating to patentability in view of the cited references. Also, in the amendments, no new matter has been added that would require the further search and/or consideration by the Examiner. Thus, it is considered that a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is not needed in order for the amendments to be entered.

Independent Claim 1 recites a device comprising first and second modules, each module having the same construction. In contrast, Musall discloses only a single module with a metal sheet 14 welded thereto (column 3, lines 45-47). This is entirely different from the first and second modules that are claimed. Musall furthermore does not disclose the claimed assembly arrangement of the first and second modules since only a single module is disclosed therein.

Independent Claims 1 and 6 recite that each/the module comprises:

*a first series of flat elements, which form projections,
a second series of elements in the form of a right angle, which are
integral with said projections, said second series of elements in the form of a
right angle comprising a first flat part, which is in the same plane as said
projections, and a raised second flat part, which forms a right angle with said
first part,*

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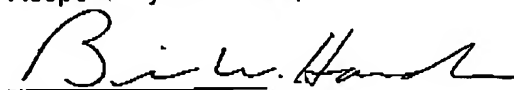
flat elements, which are in the same plane as said raised parts and which form connections in the form of first longitudinal members between said raised parts,

In Musall, there is disclosed a corresponding first series of flat elements (4a or 4b), which form projections, a second series of elements having a first flat part (2) and a second flat part (1). However, the first flat part (2) is not in the same plane as the projections (4a or 4b) as is claimed. The first flat part (2) in Musall is located in an entirely different location than what is claimed, and serves an entirely different purpose than that in the present invention. There is no disclosure to locate the first flat part (2) in Musall to be in the same plane as the projections, and there is no motivation to do so since Musall discloses a single module having alternating projections in the same plane, which would not allow for the first flat part (2) to also be formed on the same plane.

The Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney once this response has been reviewed, to conduct an interview, in the event that this response does not place the application in condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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